



Gilani Research Foundation is a not for profit public service project to provide social science research to students, academia, policy makers and concerned citizens in Pakistan and across the globe.

Gilani Research Foundation is headed by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani who pioneered the field of opinion polling in Pakistan and established Gallup Pakistan in 1980. Currently Dr. Gilani, who holds a PhD from the Massachusetts of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.

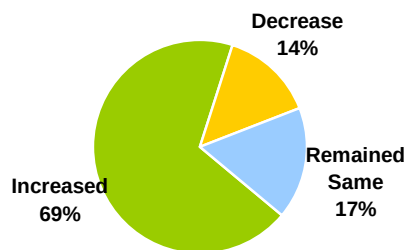
Pakistanis Perceive Nepotism to be One of the Top Most Causes for Unemployment: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, May 18, 2009

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the rate of unemployment, according to more than half of all Pakistanis (69%), has increased in the last few years. They believe it is caused not only by poverty of the economy but is also a result of the existing culture of nepotism (*Sifarish*) Socially, unemployment is also considered to have a negative affect as 60% claim that it increases crime rate. Increase in poverty, lack of law & order, delayed marriages, and migration for jobs are some of the other cited effects of unemployment on the society.

When the respondents were asked “*In your view has the rate of unemployment increased, decreased or remained the same during the last few years?*” the results indicate that more than two out of three Pakistanis (69%) believe that unemployment rate has increased- the highest in the last ten years. Fourteen percent (14%) perceive it has decreased while according to 17% of the respondents the unemployment rate has remained the same during the last few years.

“Has the rate of unemployment increased, decreased or remained the same during the last few years?”



Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

A sizeable number links unemployment with shortage of jobs. They attribute it to low rate of economic growth combined with rapidly increasing population. However nearly half, 49% of respondents view the problem as one of flawed distribution of jobs. They attribute it to the culture of nepotism (*Sifarish*).

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked, “*In your view what are the reasons for unemployment in our country?*” For majority of the respondents (49%) the top most cause for unemployment is lack of ‘**Sifaarish**’ (a word meaning influence, usually based on the nepotism of family, clan or tribe, or simply plain bribery). **Decrease in the national resources** and **Growing Population** are each believed to affect employment rate by 31% of the respondents. Twenty one percent (21%) perceive **Economic Crisis** to be one of the reasons for unemployment in the country. Four percent (4%) gave no response.

In a follow up questions the respondents were asked about the social effects of unemployment. The data shows that more than half of all respondents (60%) think that joblessness inevitably increases crime rate, forty four percent (44%) believe it increases poverty and 30% of the respondents said that unemployment deteriorates law and order in the society. Seventeen percent (17%) claimed that it delays marriages where as 16% said that due to unemployment in the country people start searching for jobs in countries abroad. One percent (1%) gave no response.

“In your view what are the reasons for unemployment in our country?” (Multiple answers allowed)

Sifaarish (Nepotism)	49%
Decrease in National Resources	31%
Growing Population	31%
Economic Crisis	21%
No Response	4%

“In your view, what are the effects of unemployment in the society?” (Multiple answers allowed)

Increase in Crime	60%
Increase in Poverty	44%
Lack of Law & Order	30%
Delayed Marriages	17%
Search for jobs Abroad	16%
No Response	1%

Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
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The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The latest survey was carried out among a sample of 2715 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during January 2009. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

Gallup Pakistan proposes that its poll results be attributed as Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. This is to distinguish our polls from polls on Pakistan sometimes released by other organizations not part of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website (www.gallup.com.pk). Gallup Pakistan takes responsibility for only its own polls on Pakistan.

For more survey data on Economy related and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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